

DECEMBER

ARCHIVES/ COLLECTION MAN 1-1-2001
624 WASHINGTON AVE
MONTGOMERY AL 36130-0100

birthday

INSIDE

New Brockton
holds annual
Christmas Parade

INSIDE

Cheyenne Nelson
bags 5-point buck

The Elba Clipper

Volume 111, Number 26

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, December 6, 2007

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 2 Adv. Insert

Caught trying to sell counterfeit merchandise

Coffee County authorities nab suspect in Elba

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

Coffee County deputies made an arrest in Elba on Tuesday evening, Nov. 27, charging Leon Lyons, age 42, of Union Springs, with selling counterfeit merchandise.

Chief Deputy Ronnie Whitworth explained that he observed the man in the parking lot of an Elba restaurant trying to sell a heavy jacket for \$40. A short time later, Lyons was seen in another parking lot trying to sell other merchandise.

When his potential customer pointed out that law officers were approaching, Lyons reportedly left the area but was stopped on Farris Street. A search of his Ford Explorer turned up several dozen pairs of "Nike" shoes in much used boxes, various items of clothing,

possibly fake lady's purses, cologne, jewelry, tools, sunglasses and a large supply of illegally copied CD's and movies. Some had fingerprints on the homemade labels. Many of the movies appeared to be pornographic in nature.

Whitworth said officers were surprised at the find, first thinking the man was involved in the sale of drugs at the time.

Following his arrest, a check

with NCIC found outstanding warrants for Lyons from Cook County, Ill (Chicago). The check also revealed that Lyons had an extensive criminal record. He was jailed without bail in the Coffee County Jail and charged with felony possession of a firearm, possession of counterfeit merchandise plus he is being held on a fugitive warrant from Cook County, Illinois.

Leon Lyons

Five arrested by officials on drug charges

Investigators with the Coffee County Sheriff's Department and the Enterprise Police Department conducted a driver's license checkpoint Friday, Nov. 30, that netted seven drug cases and three arrests.

The arrests and charges included:

- Deborah Brown, age 46, of Elba, Ala., arrested and charged with possession of crack cocaine and possession of drug paraphernalia.

- Kenneth Paul McLendon Jr., age 30, of New Brockton, Ala., arrested and charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia and carrying a pistol without a permit.

- Brandon Lee McLendon, age 25, of Jack, Ala., arrested and charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Also, on Monday, Dec. 3, deputies and investigators with the Coffee County Sheriff's Department, along with the Alabama Beverage Control (ABC) board and Covington County DTF, executed a search warrant of a residence after officers went to serve an arrest warrant. According to officials, the search warrant was executed because officers immediately detected the odor (coming from

Please See DRUGS, Page 12

Area Happenings

THE ELBA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE will sponsor Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 8-10 a.m. at the coffeehouse located on the square next to the former Jewel Box location. Admission is free. Professional made photos will be available for a small fee (photos are optional).

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL OF JACK, ALA. will sponsor Breakfast with Santa on Sunday, Dec. 9, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the sanctuary building of Hebrew Baptist Church. There is a small charge to attend. Breakfast will include pancake and sausage. Games also will be played and professional photos will be made.

THE NEW BRACKEN STUDY CLUB will have a table set up at the Elba Christmas Festival (Saturday, Dec. 8) on the square for donations of canned goods to help the Magical Christmas Fund. (In the past) each year past. The canned goods will be donated to local families in need during the Christmas season.

THE COFFEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION will meet Tuesday, Dec. 11, at 6 p.m. to conduct the regular monthly board meeting.



BACK IN BUSINESS...Elba recently welcomed the return of a familiar restaurant, Juliette's Restaurant, located across the street from Dorsey Trailers, reopened in November and offers breakfast and lunch Monday-Saturday. Juliette's also is open Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights and offers a variety of "home cooked" foods. The Elba Chamber of Commerce officially welcomed back Juliette's last Thursday, Nov. 29, during a ribbon cutting ceremony. Those present for the ribbon cutting included (from left): Jennie Clark, Eva Medlock, Laurie Chapman, Eddie Vaughan, Kenneth Calhoun, Future Little Miss Elba Makayla Polk, Little Miss Elba Kayla Sney, Coffee County Probate Judge William Gannull, Elba Mayor James Grimes, Jewel Odum - owner, Ann Carney, Michael Moseley, Tawny Hurley, Doris Matthews, Junior Miss Elba Cortlin Lee, Alyssa Walden, Herby McCall and Kaye Whitworth - executive director of the Elba Chamber of Commerce.



LOCAL BUSINESS DESTROYED BY FIRE...Rogers Paint and Body Shop, located south of Elba on Highway 87, was completely destroyed by fire Monday night, Nov. 26. The blaze was reported just after 9:30 p.m., and firefighters remained on scene until after midnight. Responding to the scene were volunteer fire departments from Ino, Elba, Goodman and New Brockton. Also destroyed in the fire was a house located on the same lot as the body shop. (Courtesy photo)

'Tis the Season

Not all good deeds go unnoticed

by Linda Hodge, Editor

They did not realize anyone was paying attention, but someone did notice the "good deeds" being performed by Antwain and Tanya Griffin. Now, that person wants to publicly recognize the two siblings.

Annie Griffin arrived home last Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 28, and found a note with instructions to "take to The Elba Clipper." The note described the various acts of kindness displayed by Griffin's two children Antwain, age 16, and Tanya, age 7.

"I didn't realize anyone had noticed what they were doing," Mrs. Griffin said as she complied with the note's instructions and delivered it to the newspaper office. Mrs. Griffin certainly wondered, though, who had thought enough of her children to want to recognize them for their efforts. Seemingly, this person desired to remain anonymous

Please See GRIFFIN, Page 12



Siblings Antwain and Tanya Griffin enjoy helping others

2007 Elba Christmas Festival Entertainment Schedule:

8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Breakfast with Santa (Inside the Coffeehouse next to The Jewel Box)

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Buck Gaines & Jody James as Roy Orbison and Elvis Presley

11:00 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Miss Christmas Festival Pageants

12:45 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

A Special Presentation

1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

StoryTime with Mrs. Claus & Elves

1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Westside Baptist Adult Choir

2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

"Feels Like Christmas" Play

Presented by

Chamber Board Members

2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Christmas Movie

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SheBang Dance Group

**20th Annual
Elba Christmas Festival
Saturday, Dec. 8th
On the Square in Elba
Christmas
4:30 p.m.**

SCHOOLS

JOURNALISM Spotlight

by Maile Thomas



This week's Journalism Spotlight is **Kimberly Michele Blue**.

Kim is the 16-year-old daughter of Sylvia Blue. Her favorite thing about journalism is expressing her creativity in the *Times*.

Kim likes to talk, spend time with her family and friends, and spend time with her boyfriend, Jonathon Richardson. She describes herself as quiet, smart, and intuitive.

After her graduation, she plans to attend EOCC for her basic studies and then transfer to Troy and major in photography or accounting.



Tiger Tales

Editors:
Erica Daniels &
Kelly Corder

Student Spotlight

by Megan Sullivan

This week Brittany Davis is featured as the student spotlight. Brittany is the 16-year-old daughter of Brett and Karen Davis and Richard and Trish Hobbs. Her grandparents are Jim and Jimmie Rhoades and Robert and Barbara Davis.

In her spare time, Brittany enjoys being with her friends and talking on the phone. She also enjoys hanging out with her boyfriend, Wesley, and clowning around with Megan.

Brittany describes herself as caring, brave, outgoing, and bubbly.

When asked about her plans after graduation, Brittany

Pilgrim Festival held at Elba Elementary

by Kelly Corder

On Thursday, Nov. 15, Elba Elementary School hosted its annual Pilgrim Festival.

At the Pilgrim Festival, elementary school students came and played games. There were games such as tic tac toe, pick-up-duck and bowling.

Another game was the Candy Tree, where the kids won a prize as well as chose their favorite colored lollipop. Teachers, as well as, the Elba High School Ambassadors, worked at the Pilgrim Festival.

Kim Blue, a member of the EHS Ambassadors said, "It was

Support Our Youth & Education



Brittany Davis

a fantastic opportunity for the elementary kids to have fun."

On Tuesday, Nov. 27, the Elba Tigers Jr. High girls faced the

Opp Bobcats. The girls were

led 3 to 3 in the first quarter.

The Lady Tigers started the

game of with a tie. In the sec-

ond quarter of the game the

Lady Tigers pulled ahead with a

score of 8 to 5.

The Lady Tigers came out of

the locker room after halftime

and scored 12 points in the 3rd

quarter, while the Bobcats only

scored 2, which led the score to

be 20 to 7.

In the fourth quarter of the

game the Lady Tigers scored 2

points while the Bobcats scored

8 points, which led the score to

be 22-15. Kei-Anna Edwards

led the Tigers with a total of 9

points, and Akira Hutchinson

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Elba Jr. High Lady Tigers defeat Opp

by Erica Daniels

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Elba FFA says "thank you" to the community



FFA FRUIT SALES. The Elba High School FFA would like to take this time to say THANK YOU to all who purchased fruit and to all that helped sell and deliver fruit this year. You helped make this year one of our most successful fruit sales events in recent years. This FFA fundraiser is becoming increasingly important as State and Federal funding for our Career Technical programs decrease. Our FFA and AgriConstruction program serves a lot of students in a lot of different ways and we could not do it without the continued support of this great community.

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YARD SALE - 2142 TAYLOR MILL RD. SAT. DEC. 8th. 12-6-11p

YARD SALE - SAT. 7:30 A.M. Until... 4-5 Miles up Taylor Mill Rd. on Left (signs). Women's Clothes, Old Glass, Couch & Jewelry. 12-6-11p

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II - ENCHANTED (PG) M-F 7:00 & 9:15 S&S 2:00, 7:00 & 9:15
III - THE MIST (PG) M-F 7:00 & 9:15 S&S 2:00, 7:00 & 9:15

College Cinema

I - THE GOLDEN COMPASS (PG-13) M-F 7:00 & 9:20 S&S 2:00, 7:00 & 9:20
II - THIS CHRISTMAS (PG-13) M-F 7:00 & 9:20 S&S 2:00, 7:00 & 9:20
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III - BOWLING (PG-13) M-F 7:00 & 9:20 S&S 2:00, 7:00 & 9:20

College Cinema

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PUBLIC NOTICES

All Elba Clipper public notices are posted on the internet at <http://www.alabamalaw.com> monitor for extra charge

FORECLOSURE NOTICE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness described in and secured by that certain mortgage executed by Tim Daniels and Sherry P. Daniels, husband and wife to The Provident Bank, an Ohio Corporation dated March 16, 2000, and Recorded in A/OFFER Book 46A, Page 406 of the records in the Office of the Judge of Probate, Coffee County, Alabama, which said mortgage was subsequently assigned to Wells Fargo Bank Minnesota, National Association, solely in its capacity as Trustee, under the Pooling and Servicing Agreement dated March 1, 2000, Home Equity Loan Asset Backed Certificates, Series 2000-1 by instrument recorded in A/OFFER Book 100A, Page 34 in said Probate Court records; notice is hereby given that the undersigned as holder of said mortgage will under power of sale contained in said mortgage, sell at public outcry for cash to the highest bidder, during legal hours of sale on the December 17, 2007, at the front door entrance of the Courthouse of Coffee County, Alabama, 230 Court St., Elba, Alabama 36323, the following described real property in the County of Coffee, State of Alabama, being the same property described in the above referred to mortgage: A LOT SITUATED IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 17, TOWNSHIP 6 NORTH, RANGE 21, EAST BEING PARTICULARLY BOUND AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 17, TOWNSHIP 6 NORTH, RANGE 21, THENCE SOUTH 48 DEGREES 53 MINUTES 12 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 1067 FEET MORE OR LESS, TO A POINT ON THE NORTHWEST RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF COFFEE COUNTY PAVED ROAD NO. 25, SAID POINT OF REFERENCE BEING MARKED BY A 2" DIAMETER GALVANIZED P...

ESTATE OF FAYE M. SPURLIN, DECEASED.

PROBATE COURT PC-07-058

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned the 27th day of November, 2007, by the Hon. William Gammill, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Joe A. Spurlin

/s/ Patsy S. Hines

/s/ Glen Faith

Personal Representatives

11/29, 12/6, 13-pd.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION

REGIONS BANK, a state banking association, Plaintiff,

v.

DEBORAH WEAVER and DAVID CARTIS BURROW Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. CV-2006-105

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE BY CLERK

Under and by virtue of the provisions of that certain decree made and entered in the Circuit Court of Coffee County (Elba Division), Alabama, on the 29th day of October, 2007, in the above-styled cause, the undersigned will proceed to sell at the Front Door of the Courthouse of Coffee County, Alabama, in the City of Elba, on the 24th day of January, 2008, at the hour of 11:00 a.m., to the highest bidder for cash, the following described real property situated in the County of Coffee State of Alabama, to wit:

One lot of land known as Lot No. 4 on the West side of Lake Ridgeway and better described as follows: Beginning at the Southwest corner of Lot No. 3 and running in an East-Northeast direction along the South side of Lot No. 3, 147 feet to the North edge of Lake Ridgeway and thence running along the waters edge in a Southwesterly direction 100 feet, thence in a Westerly direction 140 feet to the East side of road on West side of Lake Ridgeway, thence along the East side of said road in a Northern direction 100 feet to a point of beginning. Being in the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 24, TP 5, Range 20.

A used 2001 Riverchase CAV Powerhome Mobile Home, 28' x 80', VIN #CV01A0256193 A&B is located thereon and will be sold therewith.

WITNESS my hand this the 3rd day of Dec., 2007

/s/ James M. Counts

James M. Counts, Clerk

Circuit Court of Coffee County (Elba Division), Alabama

ALAN C. CHRISTIAN

RICK A. LA TRACE

Attorneys for Plaintiff, Regions Bank

Johnstone, Adams, Bailey, Gordon & Harris, L.L.C.

P.O. Box 1988

Mobile, AL 36633

Phone: (251) 432-7682

12/6, 13, 20, 27-chg.

Beth McFadden Rouse

McFadden, Lyon & Rouse, L.L.C.

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November 22, 29 and December 6, 2007 chg.

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ATTENTION!

LOW INCOME FAMILIES

SPORTS

Views from....

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

The holidays are right around the corner and our plans to take a trip for one of our Christmas presents has already hit a snag with Troy's loss last weekend that knocked it out of the New Orleans Bowl. I had promised the girls we would go to the game and spend a few days in New Orleans, but now that the Trojans lost those plans have been cancelled. The girls still want to take a trip during the holidays and we might head out for a few days. However, college football bowl games are no longer a source of concern.

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH....

*** The Elba Tigers dropped their final two games of the week to Andalusia and Luverne to watch their record fall to 2-3 in early season basketball action. The Tigers surprised Andalusia early in the game and owned an 11-point halftime lead, but fell victim to the Bulldogs' relentless pressure in the second half and dropped a game that could have been a huge early-season win. In the loss to Luverne the Tigers fell behind early and on that given night just weren't good enough to get past a very talented Luverne team. Elba has some solid high school basketball players and fields a team blessed with quickness and desire. However, the team must play well for all four quarters to win, no matter the opponent, and last week found out when it doesn't play well it can get blown off the court. The best thing about the season is that it is still young, and hard work and pride can still make this year's team winners on the court.

*** The Elba Lady Tigers saw their record slip to 2-3 last week with losses to Andalusia and Luverne, and while the 2-3 record isn't what the players and coaches had hoped for, it really isn't all that bad when one looks at the team and realizes how young and inexperienced the team really is. The Lady Tigers start an eighth-grader at point guard and have only two starters back from a year ago, which means it will take time for the team to jell as it learns its lessons on the court. The preseason expectations weren't very high, but may have to be adjusted as these girls settle in and find out they can indeed win.

*** A look around the county finds things pretty much like everyone expected prior to the season. New Brockton is winning big and should be a team to watch all season long, while Kinston is winning one every now and then as it gets used to its new coach and Zion Chapel is working hard trying to figure out how to snap the team's long losing streak that stretches back to the 2004 season. Over on the girls side of the court all three county teams are struggling and it looks like the wins may come only when they compete against each other. The season is young; however, and with hard work teams can improve and wins can come.

*** The "Super Six" high school football finals will be held this week in Birmingham and it looks like there is a very real chance for Prattville (6A), Leroy (2A) and Sweet Water (1A) to repeat as state champions. Leroy may have the hardest road since unbeaten Fayette is still alive, but it would be a little unique if three of the state's six football champs manage to win two titles in a row. There is really very little local interest in the state finals since there are no local teams involved. However, if I get the chance I am sure I will watch a few games to see the best the state has to offer.

*** In closing.... work is scheduled to get underway soon for the renovation of the high school's baseball and softball fields. Plans are to replace the infields on both fields with a crushed brick that is much more fine in nature than the existing surface, while the back stops will be removed and replaced with one that includes a brick base and netting rather than fencing. The baseball and softball programs got covered batting cages last season, and with the latest additions, should be as good or better than any around.

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10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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Someone there to help you when you need them.
897-0002 Mon-Fri. 4:00p.m.-7:00p.m.

Claim back-to-back wins

Elba Tigers sweep past Kinton Bulldogs

The Elba Tigers hit the court twice last week to battle their cross-county rivals from Kinston and made a clean sweep of the two contests as they claimed wins over the Bulldogs 73-65 and 65-58, to improve their record to 2-1 in early-season basketball action.

"We played well in spots in both games," stated Elba's Coach Glen Johnson, "but still have a lot of work to do. Our quickness made a difference in both games and helped lead us to the wins. However, we will have to improve in all areas of the game if we are to have any chance at all to have a winning season."

Following are highlights of both wins:

ELBA 73 KINSTON 65

The Elba Tigers used a big third quarter to grab the lead and held on down the stretch to defeat the Kinston Bulldogs 73-65, in Elba. Kinston came out ready to play and jumped out to a 36-32 halftime advantage, but the Tigers outscored the Bulldogs 20-9 in the third quarter to move ahead 52-45 and never looked back as they claimed the exciting 73-65 win.

Channing Morris scored 23 points to lead Elba, while Kareem Siler added 13, Richard Cooks 12 and Keenan Phillips 11. AJ Johnson scored 16 points to lead Kinston, while Matt Whigham added 14 and Hunter Anderson scored 10.

Elba Tigers beaten by Andalusia and Luverne

The Elba Tigers closed out a busy week of basketball action last week with back-to-back home losses to the Andalusia Bulldogs 60-54 and the Luverne Tigers 63-34.

"We had chances to pull off the upset against Andalusia," said Elba's Coach Glen Johnson, "but saw an 11-point lead vanish in the second half and let one slip away. We played hard against Andalusia and played well enough to win. However, we didn't play well at all against Luverne and got embarrassed. We still have a shot at being a pretty good basketball team if we work hard in practice and play hard every minute of every game. There is a lot of season left, and we will work hard to improve and get better every time we hit the court."

Following are highlights of the two losses:

ANDALUSIA 60 ELBA 54

The Elba Tigers saw a big first half lead vanish in the second half as they fell to the Andalusia Bulldogs 60-54. The Tigers pulled out to an early 14-11 lead and carried a surprising 34-23 lead in at the half, but saw Andalusia rally to sneak ahead 47-38 and never regained com-

mand as the Bulldogs left town with the 60-54 win. Channing Morris scored 22 points to lead Elba, while Gavin Respress added 13. Brandon Sims scored 32 points to lead Andalusia.

Andalusia (60): Smith 2, James 12, Sims 32, Curry 2, Johnson 12.

Elba (54): Hudson 1, Harrelson 4, Phillips 7, Cooks 6, Respress 13, Morris 22, McBride 1.

LUVERNE 63 ELBA 34

The Elba Tigers fell behind early and never in a lopsided 63-34 loss to the Luverne Tigers. Elba held its own in the opening stanza and trailed only 12-10 at the end of the opening stanza, but trailed 32-22 by the end of the half and then saw Luverne go on an 18-4 run to take command as Elba fell behind and never recovered. Bobby Hudson and Trey Belcher both scored 6 points to lead Elba, while Jackson and Harris both scored 13 points to lead Luverne.

Luverne (63): Perry 2, McGhee 5, Jackson 10, Bagents 7, May 3, Barber 7, Lowery 3, Jackson 13, Harris 13.

Elba (34): Hudson 6, Respress 5, Phillips 4, Morris 5, Caldwell 4, McBride 4, Belcher 6.

ELBA 53 KINSTON 42

The Elba Lady Tigers took command early and slowly pulled away to claim a 53-42 win over the Kinston Lady Bulldogs. The Lady Tigers owned a 14-9 lead after one quarter, extended their lead to 41-29 by the end of the third quarter, and easily held on to claim the win over their county rivals. Leanna Henderson scored 17 points to lead Elba, while Shanika Pruitt added 16 and Janae Camley scored 11.

Elba (35): Whitfield 5, Henderson 10, Carpenter 5, Pruitt 4, Coleman 1, Camley 10.

Kinston (42): Hall 7, Brantley 7, Burnett 3, May 14, Grimes 5, Hall 1, Wood 4, Robinson 3.

Elba (35): Whitfield 5, Henderson 10, Carpenter 5, Pruitt 4, Coleman 1, Camley 10.

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Elba's Gavin Respress (4) drives past an Andalusia defender for a basket in the Tigers' 60-54 loss last week. Respress scored 13 points in the game as the Tigers' record slipped to 2-2 on the season. (Photo by Mike Capps)

Elba Lady Tigers win two and lose two as record moves to 2-3

The Elba Lady Tigers closed out a busy week of basketball action Friday night and posted a 2-2 record to move its season record to 2-3.

Following are highlights of last week's action:

ELBA 52 KINSTON 28

The Elba Lady Tigers pulled ahead early and then pulled away to claim an impressive 52-28 win over the Kinston Lady Bulldogs. The Lady Tigers jumped out to an early 15-6 lead and then outscored Kinston 20-0 in the second stanza to grab a 35-6 halftime advantage.

Kinston began to settle down in the second half, but Elba easily held on to claim the 52-28 win. Leanna Henderson scored 11 points and Shanika Pruitt added 10 to lead Elba, while Whigham led Kinston with 15 points.

Elba (52): Whitfield 8, Henderson 11, McBride 2, Pruitt 10, Coleman 4, Cross 4, Camley 4, Caldwell 3, Oliver 6.

Kinston (28): Dean 8, Whigham 15, Bass 2, Manning 2, Chance 1.

LUVERNE 44 ELBA 35

The Elba Lady Tigers battled for all four quarters in a 44-35 loss to the Luverne Lady Tigers. Elba trailed only 8-5 after one quarter and 22-17 at the half, but saw Luverne stretch its lead to 33-24 in the third quarter and was unable to rally as it took the home loss. Leanna Henderson and Janae Camley both scored 10 points to lead Elba, while May led Luverne with 14 points.

Luverne (48): Hall 7, Brantley 7, Burnett 3, May 14, Grimes 5, Hall 1, Wood 4, Robinson 3.

Elba (35): Whitfield 5, Henderson 10, Carpenter 5, Pruitt 4, Coleman 1, Camley 10.

Kinston (42): Hall 7, Brantley 7, Burnett 3, May 14, Grimes 5, Hall 1, Wood 4, Robinson 3.

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Brantley VFD receives ISO rating of 4

The Brantley Volunteer Fire Department averages 130 calls per year and recently received a high rating of 4 by the Insurance Services Office (I.S.O.).

The ISO rates all fire departments throughout the United States. A class 4 rating is excellent, especially for an all-volunteer fire department. ISO collects information on municipal fire-protection efforts in communities throughout the United States.

In each of those communities, ISO analyzes the relevant data using the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS). They then assign a Public Protection

Classification from 1 to 10. Class 1 represents exemplary public protection and Class 10 indicates that the area's fire-suppression program doesn't meet ISO's minimum criteria.

To determine a community's Public Protection Classification (PPCTM), ISO conducts a field survey. Expert ISO staff visits the community to observe and evaluate features of the fire protection systems.

ISO has extensive information on more than 44,000 fire departments. Of those 44,000, only 3,036 have a rating of a class 4. Of those 3,036, less than 300 are all volunteer. Brantley is

one of those 300 out of 44,000 that have a class 4 rating. The Brantley Fire Department received 66.14 points and received a class 4 rating also. Brantley Fire Department has 26 members.

Brantley Fire Department's equipment consists of: 2008 Ford Mini-Pumper, 250 GPM; 2006 Kenworth Pumper Tanker, 1250 GPM; 2004 Pierce Pumper, 1250 GPM; 1996 E-One Mini Pumper, 500 GPM; 1996 Ford E350 Rescue Truck; and a 1991 E-One Pumper, 1500 GPM.

DRUGS

(Continued from Page One)

house, they are not just representing themselves, they are representing the entire family," said Mrs. Griffin.

She said she wants her children to realize the importance of doing good deeds and how much kindness can help others.

According to Tamya, she and her brother continue to "do good deeds" because they want to do something good for other people.

Mrs. Griffin said her grandmother implemented the helping others idea in her as she grew up, and it was something she chose to pass along to her children. She said she is extremely proud of her children and their dedication to helping others.

The note concluded by passing along one simple message, "If you are blessed...bless someone else."

GRIFFIN

while allowing the focus to stay on the Griffin siblings.

According to the note, Antwain and Tamya "do a good deed for someone every day from the trash man to the roadman saying you never know who goes to work without."

When they go to the store to purchase groceries, the note indicated the children also make sure to put extra food in the cart for others in need.

The two have been dedicated to "doing good deeds" for the past three years. Mrs. Griffin said the family did not think much about others paying attention to their kindness. Instead, she said it is just the way she and her husband, Johnny, choose to raise Antwain and Tamya.

"I tell them (Antwain and Tamya) when they leave the

Notice:

The Elba Chamber of Commerce has this year's edition of the Christmas Collection ornaments for sale. This year's ornament features the Elba Dam. Ornaments can be purchased at the chamber office or at the Elba Chamber of Commerce booth at this weekend's 20th annual Christmas Festival.

At the festival, the Chamber also will be selling t-shirts recognizing the 20th year of the Elba Christmas Festival.

SHARE YOUR VIEWS - WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

THE FOUR WAY TEST

of the things we think, say or do

- First - Is it the TRUTH?
- Second - Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- Third - Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Fourth - Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

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The Elba Clipper

Volume 111, Number 27

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, December 13, 2007

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 2 Adv. Inserts

Elba City Council completes official business for balance of 2007

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council held two meetings in one Monday evening. Alabama law requires the City of Elba council to meet at least twice monthly.

In December this is traditionally accomplished by meeting twice on the same night. Separate minutes are kept, the council works off completely different agendas and the roll is called at the beginning of each session.

In the first session the council heard a report from the police chief, reviewed the financial statement and approved the monthly bills.

Police Chief Freddy Hanchey reported increased activity during the past several weeks. He attributed this to additional officers being on patrol and a transportation grant that paid overtime for officers to work traffic control.

The financial statement for the first month of the fiscal year shows revenue slightly below the 1/12 of the annual projections; however, Mayor James Grimes said this would even out with the December sales taxes and with annual business licenses coming due. Expenses were also below the one-twelfth portion for most of the labor-intensive city departments. Several expenditures, which showed up in the current accounting year, were actually budgeted in the previous year but not paid until the first weeks of the current fiscal year.

Monthly bills totaling \$84,104.76 were approved for payment. In other business the council approved moving forward with demolition of a house on Larkin Road. Grimes reported the mountain of paperwork required for this action has taken quite a while to complete.

The meeting adjourned and the council immediately reconvened for the second meeting of the month.

The council voted to declare an old 1953 model fire truck as surplus and transfer title to Mike Haynes. The mayor explained that Haynes plans to restore the vehicle and display it in the museum he plans for the old National Security building on the Troy Highway.

City Clerk Wayne Grantham reported a second trash truck has been put on the roads this week to catch up on leaves and limbs.

Grimes reported he finally has the 13 property deeds from FEMA necessary for the continuation of the four laning of U.S. 84 through Elba. The deeds have been recorded and the mayor also plans to convey copies to the state highway department this week. These deeds do not convey ownership of the impacted land, but gives

easements for the purpose of constructing the highway.

They are signed by City of Elba, state and federal

Homeland Security (FEMA) officials.

Mayor Grimes said this "is a good Christmas present."



ELBA CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL STILL GOING STRONG AFTER 20 YEARS...The City of Elba celebrated 20 years of the Elba Christmas Festival, sponsored by the Elba Chamber of Commerce, last Saturday, Dec. 8, in Elba. In celebration of this milestone, a special presentation was made during the annual event. A wreath to the city was given to Jack E. Brunson (right) by Elba Mayor James Grimes (left) and Eddie Vaughan (center), president of the Elba Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Brunson is credited with coming up with the idea to start the Elba Christmas Festival all those years ago. After accepting the wreath from Mayor Grimes, Brunson simply said it must have been a good idea since it is 20 years later and the event is still going strong.

Katie's house becomes Fowler's home

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Coffee County Habitat for Humanity celebrated a special day Sunday, Dec. 9, as another Coffee County family became homeowners. While those involved with Habitat for Humanity feel every dedication day is a special day, this particular day will be remembered for much more.

Coffee County's newest completed Habitat for Humanity home is located at 801 West Watts Street in Enterprise, and this house was "built by loving hands honoring the life and memory of Katie Strunk."

College Avenue Church of Christ in Enterprise part-



This small plaque can be found just above the front door of the Habitat for Humanity house built in memory of Katie Strunk. College Avenue Church of Christ partnered with Habitat for Humanity to build the home.

nered with Coffee County Habitat for Humanity to build "Katie's house" with the blessing of the Strunk family.

On Sunday, Dec. 9, "Katie's house" officially became the Fowler family's home.

On March 1, 2007, a devastating tornado claimed nine lives in Enterprise.

Among those was Katie Strunk, a student at Enterprise High School.

Keith Ellis, minister of College Avenue Church of Christ, told those attending Sunday's dedication ceremony that following the tragic tornado, the church wanted to come up with a project that would honor Katie. They found such a project through Coffee County Habitat for Humanity.

Habitat for Humanity House dedicated in Enterprise



This Habitat for Humanity house, located at 801 West Watts Street in Enterprise, was dedicated last Sunday afternoon. The house was built in memory of Katie Strunk, one of the Enterprise High School students killed during the March 1, 2007 tornado.

Ellis said they picked a recipient family that was directly affected by the tornado. "Katie is very much alive in our hearts and memories," Ellis said. "Today we honor her and pray that

Please See HABITAT HOUSE, Page 12

Local hunter worries sport will diminish if changes are not made to hunting laws

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Vic Davis loves training his dogs for coyote hunting and field trial competitions, but Davis worries his sport will soon be no more if changes are not made to hunting laws in Alabama.

Davis is one of several local hunters that formed a group now referred to as the Organization of Ethical Game Laws. They are seeking changes to Alabama hunting laws that would allow for hunters to buy, sell and transport coyotes within the state.

Currently, Davis said hunters cannot buy, sell or transport wild game such as coyote due to

an "outdated" law. He said surrounding states such as Florida, Georgia and Mississippi have laws that allow the hunt of nuisance animals such as coyote, and the local hunters are only asking for the same in Alabama.

Without a change in the law, the coyote hunters are only allowed to hunt the game already in an existing enclosure.

They cannot trap and bring new game to the enclosure, which Davis said will eventually ruin their sport.

This has been the law for years, but Davis said it was overlooked. However, due to recent high-profile animal cruelty cases, he said the issue has become a problem locally.

Davis believes there is a lot of

misperception about his sport. He said the dogs used to run the animals are scent dogs. They are raised in a kennel and trained for field trials and pleasure hunting. Their purpose is to pick up on the scent of the game and try and locate it.

Davis' kennel, Victory Kennel, currently holds 35 dogs

that come from several different states and even Canada. He said

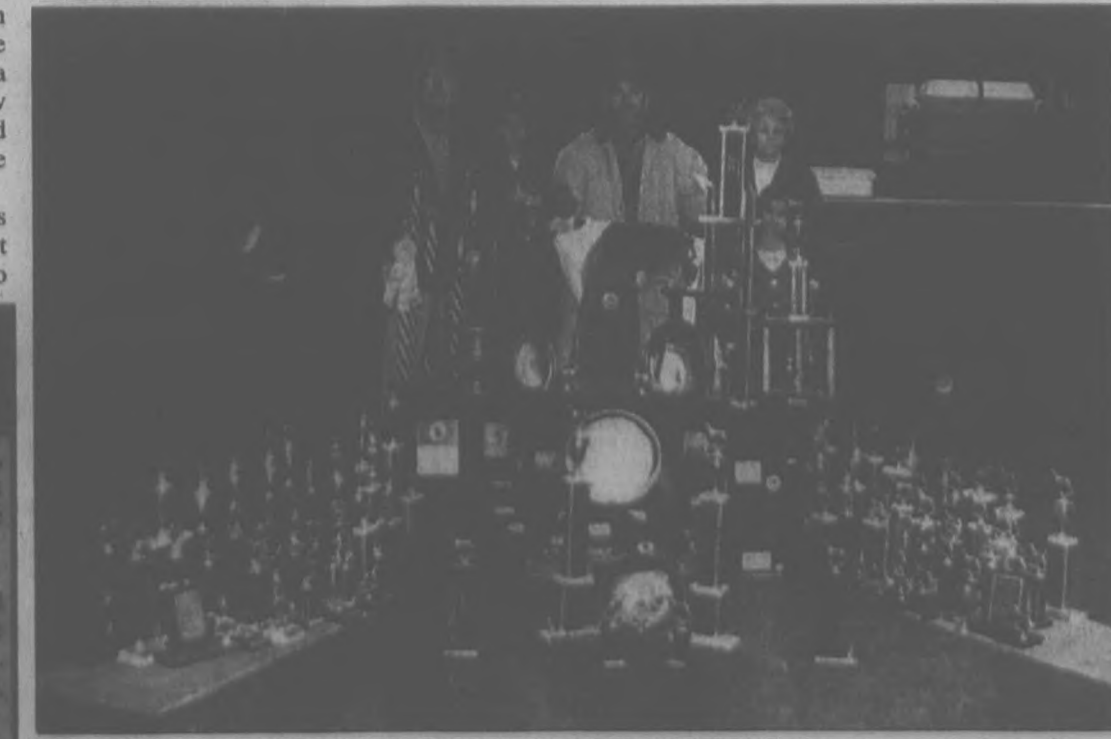
Please See HUNT, Page 12

NEWS BRIEF

According to the Coffee County Sheriff's Department, a burglary that reportedly occurred Thursday, Dec. 6, has led to the arrest of one suspect. The burglary was reported last Thursday at approximately 6 p.m. from a residence on County Rd. 215.

Upon investigating the crime, Chief Deputy R.W. Whitworth said a vehicle description was acquired. While following up on the case, he said a vehicle matching the description was spotted leaving one residence and later spotted at a nearby business trying to sell scrap metal. Whitworth said quick response and accurate information from citizens in the area resulted in the arrest of Andrew Keith Baker. He was charged with burglary third degree with further charges pending.

Whitworth said guns taken during the burglary were recovered and returned to the owner.



THE DAVIS FAMILY CONSISTS OF THREE GENERATIONS OF dog hunters. The are shown above with a portion of the trophies won through the years by family members at field trial competitions (mostly in enclosures) with dogs. With the change to current Alabama hunting laws, the family worries their sport will soon be no more. Family members include (from left): Wayne Davis, Brent Davis, Vic Davis, Shirley Davis and Brandi Davis.